Transfer System in State Bank of India

1793. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any codified Transfer Policy is existing in Public Sector Banks including State Bank of India;

(b) if so, whether there is any provision for grant of immunity or exemption from the periodical transfer to Office Bearers of Recognised Officer's Association in State Bank of India;

(c) if so, whether this policy of grant of immunity to office bearers of Recognised Officer's Association in State Bank of India is in tune with the directives issued by Government in this regard; and

(d) if not, what action is proposed to be taken for this violation by State Bank of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) As per State Bank of India Officers' Service Rules, every Officer is liable for transfer to any office/branch of bank or to any place in India. However, the State Bank of India reached an agreement with the representatives of majority Officers' Association/Federation in August, 1982 under which certain Office Bearers are exempted from the normal transfer policy of the bank, so long they continue to be such Office Bearers. Even these Officers can be transferred on account of administrative exigencies.

(c) and (d) The transfer of banks' staff is a management function of the bank. As such, transfer/exemption from transfer is done by banks based on administrative exigencies of each bank.

However, Government has advised the banks that they should review the periodic rotation of the staff and not let them continue at the same branch/ office for an unduly long time. It was also advised that officers and award staff should not normally continue at the same place for more that three and five years respectively and no exemptions have been given from such transfers to office bearers of any Recognised Officers Association.